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SENATE MEMORIAL 21

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Jane M. Garcia

A MEMORIAL

**HONORING PETRA JIMENEZ MAES AS THE NATION'S FIRST HISPANIC
WOMAN CHIEF JUSTICE OF A STATE SUPREME COURT.**

**WHEREAS, Petra Jimenez Maes was sworn in as chief justice
of the New Mexico supreme court on January 10, 2003, becoming
the nation's first Hispanic woman to serve as a state supreme
court chief justice; and**

**WHEREAS, she worked her way through college and law school
and was one of the first two Hispanic women to graduate from
the university of New Mexico school of law in 1973; and**

**WHEREAS, after working in private practice until 1975, she
went on to work for northern New Mexico legal services and was
appointed to the first judicial district court in 1981; and**

**WHEREAS, as a single parent who raised her four children
after her husband's death in 1983, she holds children's issues**

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1 particularly important and, as a state district judge in Santa
2 Fe, she established a family court; and

3 WHEREAS, she is the third woman to serve on the state
4 supreme court and the second female chief justice;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
6 OF NEW MEXICO that congratulations be extended to Petra Jimenez
7 Maes, an outstanding New Mexican; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
9 transmitted to Chief Justice Maes.

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